

THE SHAKERITE

January 29, 2008 • Volume 78 • Issue 5 • Shaker Heights High School • 15911 Aldersyde Drive • Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120

Taking the Junior out of JV

• This year's JV hockey team includes an unprecedented number of seniors and first-time players.

Raider Zone, Page 11

SHAKER BORDER SECURITY

FOLLOWING A NEW YEARS EVE ATTACK, THE SHAKER COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO MEDIA COVERAGE OF SAFETY CONCERNS.

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COFFEE AND A SHOW

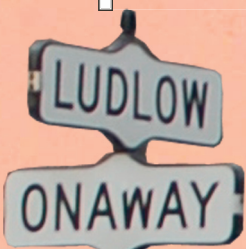
THE GORDON SQUARE DISTRICT HOUSES BOTH CLEVELAND PUBLIC THEATER AND GYPSY BEANS AND BAKING CO. HEAD OVER TO LIMELIGHT AND SEE WHAT ELSE THIS HISTORIC DISTRICT HAS TO OFFER.

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SHE WANTS HER SHOWS BACK!

LIMELIGHT EDITOR SIMONE DUVAL EXPRESSES HER FRUSTRATION WITH THE CURRENT STRIKE OF THE WRITERS' GUILD.

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COVER SHOT

The junior varsity hockey team takes on St. Ignatius Jan. 11. The team comprises a large amount of upperclassman as well as first-time players. Shaker lost the game 11-1. Photo by Su Dong

What's Inside

01.29.08

EDITORS' NOTE

The strength of Shaker

For years, Shaker has been the premier suburb on Cleveland's east side. Offering a nationally recognized school district, racial and socio-economic diversity and, most importantly, a safe community in which to raise a family.

In light of the New Year's Eve assault on 52-year-old Shaker resident and father Kevin McDermott, many have questioned whether the community is the same Shaker "that it once was." Some, including Plain Dealer columnist Dick Feagler, went as far as to encourage a resurgence of white flight in the name of "reality."



WESLEY LOWERY

And while it is irrational to expect an immediate exodus, in the wake of this horrific incident, it is reasonable that many Shaker residents are weighing the worth of remaining in Shaker.

However, one only has to look at the community response to this incident to see one of its most redeeming qualities: strength. Newly-elected Mayor Earl Leiken responded to the incident reassuring statements of regional cooperation, while Vice Mayor Nancy Moore and City Council Al Foster have committed themselves to maintaining increased border security and developing an improved "edge strategy."



ALLISON SCHARFSTEIN

Yes, Shaker faces the same challenges as every other inner ring suburb: foreclosure, integration issues, and poverty-related crime. Yet the draw of a community like Shaker is its pro-active approach to these very issues. Since the assault, The Community Association held a meeting with the Shaker Heights Police Department, community leaders and residents from both the Shaker and Cleveland neighborhoods of the Ludlow area. In addition, the school district has sent school security personnel to the Ludlow area to ensure the safety of children walking to and from bus stops.

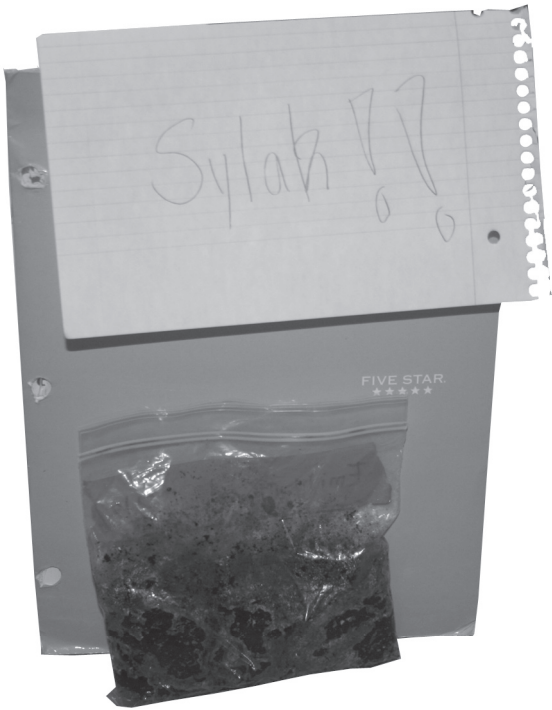
While these were necessary first steps towards continuing to improve the community, it is imperative that Shaker residents, in addition to community leaders, work to internally repair the city's slandered image. The key to maintaining a positive community outlook is a self-perpetuated commitment to maintaining community standards.

As difficult as this may be for residents, its importance is significant. Firstly, fostering a love for the community will encourage families to stay in Shaker, maintaining the environment that has defined Shaker for so long. Even after their kids have graduated the schools system, families should have a reason to stay at home in Shaker.

This internal work is even more significant considering the incoming of new residents to Shaker. When researching Cleveland suburbs for relocation, this incident may give families a reason not to choose Shaker.

Reviving a reputation tarnished by negative publicity will be a trying task, but there is no suburb more capable than Shaker Heights.

DIGGING UP DIRT FOR CREDIT



AMONG OTHER MISCELLANEOUS EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES, AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE STUDENTS EARNED POINTS FOR SUBMITTING DIRT TO TEACHER ROBERT SYLAK.

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NEW SENIOR SPACE DISAPPOINTS

ADMINISTRATORS REVEALED THE NEW SENIOR LOUNGE SPACE ALONG WITH THE CAFETERIA ADDITIONS ON JAN. 7. UNFORTUNATELY, MANY SENIORS WERE LESS THAN PLEASED WITH THE NEW LOUNGE.

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ALL-TIME BEST



RAIDER ZONE PROFILES THE BEST SPORTS TEAMS EVER TO SPORT THE RAIDER RED AND WHITE.

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THE SHAKERITE

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This Month

1.29.08

A SAFE HOLIDAY

Feb. 14 is widely known for being Valentine's Day, but it's important to remember that it is National Condom Day as well. Students for Choice will be celebrating this holiday by passing out condoms around the school. On days when Students for Choice isn't handing out free condoms, students can get them at Planned Parenthood free of charge. Junior Sophie Marks thinks this holiday is well deserved. It appears condoms are popular throughout the country all year long, in 2002 Americans purchased 354 million condoms.



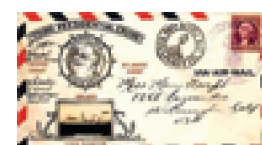
FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					Cirque de Soleil at The Wolstein Center @ 7:30pm 1	2
3	4	5	6 Women's Basketball vs. Euclid Away @ 7:30pm	7	8 Men's Wrestling vs. Benedictine @ 7:00pm	9 Wicked at Playhouse Square Center @ 7:00pm
10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day/ National Condom Day	15 NO SCHOOL President's Day Weekend	16
17 Presidents Day NO SCHOOL	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 National Ketchup Day	27	28	29 Leap Day	

Feb. 4 is Thank A Mail-man Day. In honor of this day here are some cool facts about the US Postal Service.



The youngest Pony Express rider on record was 11 years old.



More than 213 billion pieces of mail are mailed each year.



The Postal Service purchases the most rubber bands and pressure sensitive adhesive in the world.

A birthday once every four years

About 187,000 Americans only have a birthday every four years. That's because they are born on Feb. 29, commonly referred to as leap day. Leap years occur every four years to help synchronize the calendar year with the solar year. It seems like a long shot, but the chances of being born on leap day are actually one in 1500.

The Egyptians first introduced the concept of adding a day to the calendar, however it was the Romans who first added a day to February. Among the many leap day babies in the world are NFL quarterback Cary Conklin, who played for the San Francisco 49ers, and musician Ja Rule. People born on leap day are sometimes called 'Leaplings'. Most 'Leaplings' celebrate their birthdays on either Feb. 28 or March 1.

Every year divisible by four is a leap year with the exception of those years divisible by 100, which must then be divisible by 400 to be a leap year. The longest gap between two leap years is eight years, the next time such a gap will occur is between 2096 and 2104.

Happy Close Call Birthday!

Amanda Polster, Feb. 13
Sarah Cook, July 3rd

"It's cool having my birthday so close to the 4th of July, it's like every year the fire works are wishing me a happy birthday," Cook said.

Mike Walter, December 30th



Compiled by Abby Schiller



WINTER BALL TURNED RAVE?

This year's Winter Ball will be more like a Winter Rave. Although it is not required, Student Council is encouraging students interested in attending to wear all black or all neon colors, to accompany the glow sticks that will be attached to the tickets. Additionally, the music for the dance will stray from the typical rap and R&B to mostly techno to enhance the "rave" theme. "Student Council has been working with Radio Club to organize the music," Student Council Adviser Eric Hutchinson said. According to Amy Nezamzadeh, head of council's dance committee, the winter ball will be held in the North Gym to allow more room for dancing.

Note Worthy

01.29.08

“ This was not a school-related incident . . . Unfortunately, people draw conclusions about all youth based on incidents of this type. ”

Mark Freeman
Superintendent



Bobby O'Conner • The Shakerite

LUDLOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL sits close to city limits in one of the many places where Shaker borders Cleveland. The Ludlow neighborhood, most commonly recognized for pioneering the integration of the Shaker schools, has received national media attention following the assault of a 52-year-old Shaker man by six Cleveland youth. According to Shaker City Councilman Al Foster, the city is working to develop a more comprehensive strategy in reducing border crime, as well as partnering with Cleveland police to better patrol the area.

DEVELOPING AN 'EDGE STRATEGY'

• Shaker officials, residents respond to community criticism following New Years Eve assault

BY WESLEY LOWERY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

In response to resent criticism of both the school and community, Superintendent Mark Freeman insisted that a New Years Eve attack of a Shaker resident is not an indicator of school quality.

Plain Dealer columnist Dick Feagler used his piece "Beating in Shaker Leaves Some Ugly Cultural Welts" to openly criticized both the Shaker community and school district stating, "Now Shaker is just Shaker, trying to hold on to it itself. The high school (which once dazzled me by calling itself a campus) isn't quite as good anymore." However, Freeman said the incident does not reflect typical behavior of Shaker youth. "This was not a school-related incident," Freeman said. "Unfortunately people draw conclusions about all youth based on incidents of this type."



Freeman

Principal Michael Griffith not only disagreed with Feagler's assertions, but also questioned Feagler's authority to comment on the high school. "If you're going to evaluate the status of an academic institution, you have to be there," said Griffith, who added that the schools are still one of the community's largest draws for potential residents. "Do we have challenges? Absolutely. But are we succeeding in educating our students? The answer is yes."

Fifty-two-year-old Shaker resident Kevin McDermott was assaulted by six Cleveland youth while walking in the Ludlow neighborhood Dec. 31. Six suspects, ranging in age from 14 to 19, are in custody and have been charged with felonious assault and attempted murder. McDermott, who, according to family members has returned home from the hospital, is the father of two Shaker graduates as well as two students currently en-

rolled in the district.

News of the assault gained regional and national attention following Dick Feagler's Jan. 6 column in the Plain Dealer and a subsequent piece in The New York Times titled "A Suburb Looks Nervously at Its Urban Neighbor."

In response to the incident, both the city and school district have increased efforts to maintain the safety of residents in the area. The Times reported that unmarked police cars have circled the Ludlow district every five minutes. In addition, the school district has relocated security personnel to the area during the afternoon to monitor students getting off buses.

In an email to Shaker residents, newly elected Mayor Earl Leiken cited a 50 percent drop in crime rates over the last 20 years to dispel the fear that this is more than an isolated instance. "An assault like this is virtually unprecedented here," Leiken stated.

City Councilman Al Foster, who lives on the Shaker-Cleveland border in the Moreland neighborhood, expressed in a telephone interview that he is satisfied with the efforts of the Shaker Heights Police Department to curb crime. Foster said, "The Shaker police will catch the culprits, and they did." He added the city plans to partner with surrounding communities to curb violence, and was encouraged by plans to install security cameras in the Cleveland portion of the Ludlow area. "We are going to be vigilant, we have got to keep this city strong."

Foster, who previously served as vice mayor and is a member of the Moreland on the Move Community Association, said that developing an effective "edge strategy" is vital to maintaining community safety. Foster believes that maintaining close contact with surrounding communities is key to ensuring safety at common borders. Foster believes increased efforts are necessary at the Shaker-Warrensville and Shaker-University Heights bor-

ders, in addition to the Shaker-Cleveland border. "I live on the edge and I've watched criminals run through my yard," Foster said. "We have to get our edges stronger. If we need more men or more money, lets do it."

The Ludlow Community Association met Jan. 19 with residents from both the Shaker and Cleveland neighborhoods in the Ludlow area as well as other Shaker and Cleveland residents. The meeting served as a forum for residents to express concerns about neighborhood security.

The Ludlow area is known primarily for Ludlow Elementary School, which closed its doors 20 years ago. During the late 1950s, parents in the Ludlow community pioneered integration efforts in the district. Foster believes this event will strengthen the historically "tight-knit" community.

"It has made Ludlow stronger, and more aware," said Foster. "It has made Shaker stronger."



Bobby O'Conner • The Shakerite

SHAKER ATTORNEY KEVIN McDermott was assaulted in front of this house near the Onaway-Van Aken intersection.



I naturally abhor what happened to Kevin. We have to keep this city safe.

Al Foster
City Council Member



I'm disappointed that [Feagler] made a connection between the schools and this horrific incident.

There is no connection.
Michael Griffith
Principal

INCOMPLETE LOUNGE FRUSTRATES CLASS OF '08

BY ALEXA SYKES
NOTEWORTHY EDITOR

Seniors' verdict on their relocated lounge is in, and it's not pretty. The class of 2008 complains that the lounge, located in the section of the original cafeteria bordering the faculty lunch room, is uncomfortable and noisy.

"I hate that we don't even get a part of the nice, new cafeteria . . . our lounge is the same place I ate lunch when I was a freshman and sophomore," senior Kirsten Nedrud said. Principal Michael Griffith referred to the senior lounge as "incomplete," and "a work in progress."

"Our intention is to create a space more like a lounge, and not like a cafeteria," he said.

Administrators, however, anticipate seniors will adapt to their new space after a lot of decorating.

But according to senior Amanda Goldman, "the lounge currently has no furniture or a door." However, as of Jan. 14, a gray divider that resembles an office cubicle wall was set up after numerous complaints that underclassmen were trekking through the lounge during lunch periods. "Underclassmen wander[ed] in constantly," senior Rachael Jaffe said. While the divider separates the lounge from the rest of the cafeteria, it does not completely enclose the space, triggering further complaints. "I would have preferred a door, maybe even a curtain," senior Stan Vanpelt said.

Griffith has met with interior designers in addition to seniors in order to enhance the overall appearance of the lounge. He stressed the importance of including students in any decisions. "I didn't want to decorate without the students' voices," he said.

According to Griffith, after the changes are implemented, there will be a designated sitting area without tables. It will feature new furniture and accompanied by a flat panel TV. In the middle of the lounge, square tables will be set up for dining, along with a "play area" including a ping-pong table and a possible Foosball table. Fi-

nally, the lounge will include a workstation with three to four computers, and some storage space for senior adviser Saralee Cox.

"We're hoping at least the new lounge furniture will be in by the beginning of second semester," Griffith said. He added that the display case that was once used by all four classes will now solely be used by seniors, so students may personalize it. "You've gotta live in it and start owning it," he said.

Assistant Principal Eric Hutchinson characterized other complaints about the lounge as "wasted energy."

"The lease on the senior lounge for this particular class is almost expired . . . in my opinion, getting upset is a clear example of wasted energy," he said. However, Hutchinson appreciated that seniors expressed concern about their school. "I am glad that the seniors care," he said. According to Hutchinson, the decision to move the senior lounge from its seven-year basement location is educationally sound for the overall climate of the building, quieting unnecessary noise in the hallways during lunch periods. But some seniors feel the move was a direct attempt to limit their freedom.

"We aren't allowed out, and we have to have a pass . . . in the old lounge, there was so much more freedom, and it is a matter of seniority that has been taken away," Jaffe said. "We are locked in our own lounge," fellow senior Carlye Bellamy added.

Ironically, chief among the seniors' complaints is the noise level during lunch periods. "It's so loud because all of the noise [from the cafeteria] . . . before we were separated and had a nice space," Goldman said.


Despite complaints, administrators believe the decision to move the lounge was wise. "I am not in disagreement of [the senior lounge's] placement because I believe it's better for the entire building," Hutchinson said.

Regarding the evolution of the new senior lounge, Griffith said, "We'll get there . . . it's growing pains."



John Fletcher • The Shakerite

THE DIVIDER THAT blocks off the senior lounge from the rest of the cafeteria was set up January 14 after several complaints of underclassmen trespassing through the new lounge. However, more complaints circulated around the senior class when several seemed displeased with the bland appearance of the lounge. Until new furniture arrives, the new lounge only features round tables and chairs from the older section of the cafeteria.




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TOO MANY BELLS

In case your ears weren't already ringing, two new bells have been added to the bell schedule. The first one rings 12 minutes after school is over to warn students to get to conferences or leave the building and the second bell rings five minutes after that. These new bells aren't just annoying; they're a little insulting. Students know they need to go to conferences or go home after school, but what's the harm in lingering after school for a few extra minutes? After a long day at school, we don't need extra encouragement to leave.

Shaker Speaks

01.29.08



Joe Schorgl • The Shakerite

Internet comments spur controversy

• Online reaction to column prompts Plain Dealer to filter response

In the aftermath of the New Year's Eve assault on Shaker parent Kevin McDermott, Dick Feagler's Jan. 8 Plain Dealer column urging Shaker Heights residents to flee for safety prompted a flurry of comments on the newspaper's blog – and some were abominable.

With such mantras as “hang ’em high,” “fry them all” and “skin them alive,” some anonymous PD readers revealed racist or barbaric thoughts that they dare not share in daily life.

Many offered suggestions that ranged from the whimsical to the pragmatic – from building a wall around Shaker Heights to offering criminals financial incentives to be sterilized. Some took up Feagler's sport of taking cheap shots at Shaker Heights, a few others preached tolerance while many expressed their desire to see the culprits locked away for life.

Regardless, controversy is magnetic, and often comments from rational minds are overlooked in favor of “Hang their [the alleged culprits'] families if they won't relocate to Columbia or Mexico.”

It seemed that the discussion would deteriorate into a cyber-slugfest until the Plain Dealer began approving comments before allowing them to be posted.

It's no secret that the Internet allows people to adopt alternate personalities. Indeed, the ability to speak your mind without any repercussions seems liberating, but that liberty is a double-edged sword. It allows people to vent their feelings, but also allows them to spew hateful or vulgar garbage. Using an alter ego to suspend the façade of daily life can surely be a healthy release from

stress. At the same time, using Internet anonymity to peddle intolerant – even violent – behavior can surely contribute to a stressful society.

Despite the dark side of anonymous posting, it may benefit readers to have some insight into the unfiltered minds of others. It is naive to assume that people will speak truthfully on every issue when confronted in person. Yet people should know that others really think the alleged perpetrators of McDermott's beating should be sent to Iraq to attract sniper fire and search for IEDs, regardless of how repulsive that idea is. Filtering hateful speech on Internet blogs, or eliminating anonymity, would encourage people to assume the world is a sterile place to live in, and that they will forever be insulated from hateful speech or bigotry.

Internet anonymity is here to stay, whether you like it or not. The only thing left to debate is its virtues; it can never be abolished. While censorship seems like a valid way to filter out hateful speech, there are ways around it, and when you accomplish your goal of a sterile community, those censored will move somewhere else.

Perhaps the Plain Dealer should reconsider its policy on filtering comments. Unnecessary rudeness towards fellow posters and vulgarity is, and very well should be, the target of aggressive filtering. But directing it toward unpopular or disagreeable opinions is a habit that leads to disregard of the First Amendment. Just as Feagler is allowed to give voice to his thoughts, so should we.



... People should know that others really think the alleged perpetrators of McDermott's beating should be sent to Iraq to attract sniper fire and search for IEDs, regardless of how repulsive that idea is.

Lackluster new lounge

As I strolled into the high school following winter break it was hard not to notice that the two-story cafeteria was finally complete. However, my elation was soon diminished upon discovering the supposedly revamped senior lounge comprised a couple of tables and a few scattered cafeteria chairs. “No problem,” I told myself as I went downstairs, “I'll just head back to the old lounge.” Unfortunately a locked door quickly ended my journey.



WESLEY LOWERY

The most disappointing part of the current excuse for a lounge is that the entire scenario was utterly predictable. And while many of my classmates seem shocked at the mediocrity of the new lounge, I must admit, I saw it coming. For over a year we have had a comprehensive blue print of what to expect from the new cafeteria, yet we were never provided with a concrete layout of what the senior lounge would entail. We were never told what to expect. Air hockey or ping-pong? Cafeteria chairs or couches? Soda or Vitamin Water?

Without any tangible expectations, many seniors expected that, come January, they would walk into a completely updated, fully furnished lounge. However, without any finalized design, it was unrealistic to think that the lounge would match the new cafeteria quality.

What was even more unrealistic was expecting the senior class to be pleased with spending their seven second-semester absences in a less-than-complete lounge. Displacing the school's senior class midway through the year was risky enough, and, after growing accustomed to spending my free period, and often my math period, passed out on a couch or watching an intense ping-pong match, the thought of exhausting that time sitting in a blue plastic chair behind the infamous glass-block wall just doesn't cut it.

Unfortunately, rather than allowing seniors to return to the old lounge for the remainder of the school year, the administration is determined to save face, and has subjected the class of 2008 to an incomplete lounge. While the administration has been fairly receptive of criticism regarding the new lounge, consulting an interior designer and installing a temporary wall to reduce underclassman traffic, the mistake was not in moving the lounge. Rather, it was unveiling an unfinished project.

Relocating the senior class mid-year not only displaces the current seniors, but also impedes the satisfactory completion of the lounge. In the upcoming months administrators will choose between only making alterations that can be successfully completed over nights and weekends, or closing the lounge for extended periods of time. The lounge should have been revealed if, and only if, it was holistically finished. Rather than giving the seniors a half-finished lounge, the district should have saved the lounge launch until the start of the 2008-09 school year, saving them the wrath of the current seniors and providing them with an additional semester to complete the project.

History of racism holds Little Italy to its past

• Reputation for prejudice persists despite influx of new residents

Italian neighborhood worth the trip

A hotbed of historical and cultural significance, Cleveland's Little Italy has always intrigued me.

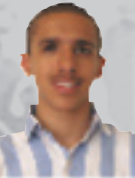
Unfortunately though, many African Americans feel uncomfortable in the neighborhood due to a history of racial tensions. During the 1960s, the seven-day Hough Riots centered largely on the Little Italy area, and while it has been more than 40 years since the riots, images of the National Guard physically barricading the district from black rioters are sure to remain in the minds of many. While it is reasonable to steer clear of certain restaurants and, as in most of Cleveland, resist the urge to go for that late night stroll, by avoiding the area all together many people have overlooked what is possibly the liveliest aspect of a dying city.

Of course, there have been isolated incidents during the years; however, in the dozens of times I have navigated the district, I have yet to witness the slightest reason for concern.

My first experience with Little Italy occurred during the annual Festival for the Feast; three hours, 10 blocks and three canolis later, I was in love. Since my first exposure four years ago, I have returned to Little Italy for everything from formal dinners to late-night runs. And while it would be a lie to say I wasn't a little hesitant at first, after dozens of visits and nothing but positive experiences, I am at ease with the district.

Of course, my positive experiences far from negate decades of racial tension; however, the only way to improve race rations in Little Italy is to expose those who harbor hatred toward other races to the very races against whom they are prejudiced.

Anyone, of any race, who hasn't made the 15-minute trek to Little Italy should pay the district a visit. Even if it isn't your usual Friday night, at least you know the food will be good.



WESLEY LOWERY

Student residents should pave way for race issue

Little Italy's main drag emanates Old World. The images of old men smoking foot-long cigars, bakers sporting short sleeves during subzero temperatures and a king-size Virgin Mary looming in front of a church are the images this historic neighborhood conjures among Clevelanders.

Yet, a significant image is missing from this collection. Today, students are the dominant group living in Little Italy. Italian families no longer inhabit the numerous apartments and homes that line the side streets of the neighborhood. Instead, crusty art students carrying charcoal canvases yield to laptop-intensive Case students as they traverse Murray Hill to and from classes, blending easily with the traditional crowds at Presti's Bakery and Mama Santa's.

This growing student population in Little Italy demonstrates that the historic community can accept and adapt to some changes. Yet, the neighborhood is still unable to shed its reputation as unsafe for African-Americans.

For example, I have been a weekly patron of Mama Santa's (easily the best pizza joint in Cleveland) since starting high school. I am always seated quickly, and everyone is usually cordial (the restaurant is often too busy for anyone to be really nice). Yet, I went in one day to pick up some pizza with an African-American friend, and the guy working behind the counter just kept talking on the phone while we stood waiting for 15 minutes.

While this is not the overt and dangerous racism of old – the kind that led to physical attacks on African-Americans – it illustrates that prejudice has not left the community even as young hipster students have moved in.

Little Italy is a highlight of our region, filled with some of the best art galleries, restaurants and shops in Cleveland. Sadly, African-American students at Shaker have for years repeated the mantra that the neighborhood is not safe for blacks. My Mama Santa's experience only reinforces that belief.

The neighborhood's cultural bounty should be an equal-opportunity destination. It is time for Little Italy businesses to welcome African-Americans to its establishments, just as the neighborhood has accepted the students who have moved into its homes.



JOSH DAVIDSON



SEASONS OF LOVE END FOR BROADWAY'S 'RENT'

After nearly 12 years on Broadway, "Rent," the rock musical about a group of friends surviving drug abuse and the AIDS epidemic in New York City, will be closing June 1, according to the New York Times. This run makes "Rent" the seventh longest running Broadway show. "Rent" won four Tony Awards, including best musical, and the Pulitzer Prize. Productions have taken place on 6 continents. Made into a movie in 2005, "Rent" will continue in film, soundtracks and smaller theater and school productions.

Lime Light

01.29.08

RENOVATED CULTURE DISTRICT SPOT ON WITH NIGHT OF THEATER AND COFFEE

• Gordon Square Arts District offers entertainment with Cleveland Public Theatre, Gypsy Beans & Baking Co.



Kelsey DeForest • The Shakerite

GYPSY BEANS & Bistro Co. serves up traditional coffee shop fare with global cafe foods. Visible here are the artisans breads as well as the menus for the Passport Drinks and daily foods.

BY KELSEY DEFOREST
LIMELIGHT EDITOR

There is something wonderfully alternative in going for dinner at a local, independent coffee shop-bistro followed by a show at the public theater next door.

At the intersection of Detroit and W. 65, in the Gordon Square Arts and Entertainment District, such a night out is possible with Gypsy Beans & Baking Co. and Cleveland Public Theatre -- only a quick drive or a hop onto the 326 West bus from Tower City will take you there.

Both businesses foster a community of hip and eclectic Clevelanders. CPT opens its doors to artists from across the area and audiences of various means with "pay-what-you-can" Thursdays. Gypsy proves diverse in its clientele and also the wide menu. Scene Magazine distinguished both businesses as Best Theatre Company and Best Neighborhood Java Joint, respectively.

The Gordon Square businesses readily support their neighbors. Area businesses advertise in CPT playbills. Several posters adorn CPT advertising Gypsy for "dinner before curtain" and "dessert and coffee after-curtain."

The community at Gordon Square is growing. Both CPT and Gypsy contribute to the renaissance.

GLOBAL FLAVORS SATISFY COMMUNITY HUNGER

Gypsy is a warmly furnished coffee shop in balmy reds, yellows, creams and casually mismatched wood furniture. The shop, which used to be a discount store, bears the traditional double-front windows, creating an atmosphere that is appropriate for work or pleasure.

Owner and one of two chefs, Niki Gilota, opened Gypsy Jan. 2, 2007. Her wide array of global cuisine, including pizzas, flatbreads, soups, sandwiches and salads, is inspired by a trip to Europe with her sister in 1998.

Regarding Gordon Square, she said, "It's nice to have a community that supports independent thinking.

"We have everything from little old folks who have

lived in the neighborhood their entire lives to young hipsters to metrosexuals with stable jobs who come in wearing suits," Gilota said of Gypsy's clientele.

Customers are most likely drawn to the detailed passion for taste. The house espresso blend comprises seven types of beans with three roasting varieties to achieve the "flavor profile" Gilota had envisioned. This espresso is featured in the Passport Drinks. Such flavors as The Moscow, white chocolate and raspberry, and The Antarctic, vanilla and mint, are included in the series of 12 lattes.

CONSCIOUSNESS, COMPASSION IN PERFORMANCE

CPT is a community-based performance company whose space consists of two theaters -- the James Levin Theatre, named for the Shaker alum who founded CPT, and the Gordon Square Theatre, Cleveland's oldest standing theater, which is currently being renovated. CPT welcomes all varieties of performance. CPT also works diligently in education with programs such as STEP, a summer theater tour in which inner-city teens work in all aspects of theater craft and production.

Currently at CPT, is the Big Box Series is an eight-week series of 10 productions, in its fifth year, according to the CPT website. Performances are staged in the Levin Theatre (an understated space that lets the art speak for itself). Each week a new artist or company receives keys to the theater and is allowed to create freely. The process concludes in three performances during the weekend.

Megan Pitcher, director of the Big Box show "Companions" and artistic director of MegLouise Dance, said, "I think that series is particularly forgiving. . . . CPT is really helpful. They go out of their way to see if there is anything they can do."

On their website, CPT explains Big Box "is not about huge production values. It is more about the performance." The Big Box Series is art for the sake of art, for the love of art. And in the simplest way, that is what CPT is all about.

Big [Box] Series Performance Schedule for February

• The Big Box Series runs through the months of January and February with all shows presented in the James Levin Theatre. Friday and Saturday shows begin at 7:30 pm and Sunday shows start at 3:00 pm. General admission is \$15 and all senior and student tickets are \$12. All Big Box performances are meant to be viewed as works in progress and comments are generally appreciated by the artists involved who are available after the show. Artists are encouraged to experiment and invent within their individual productions.

THE ONE WHO . . .

Feb. 1-3, directed by Joel Hammer and written by Scott Plate, this play presents the voices of five gay men living outside an urban center. All five exist in degrees of invisibility within the population. Characters include an Irish Catholic priest and a cross-dressing shaman with a public access cable show. Each character analyzes what it means to have and be forced to have an "essential self."

COSTUMBRISMO

This comedic chamber opera runs Feb. 8-10, and is directed by Deborah Magid. Themes explored include passion, desire and candy bars as an allegory for sexual preference. In Khandihba, different characters enjoy the YumBar in a variety of ways. A woman introduces the MyBar and soon sways the characters to her will in an attempt to destroy the economy.

VIS-A-VIS

Feb. 15-17 features a dance collection choreographed by Kalindi Stockton and Maree ReMalia. The performance addresses personal and social issues drawn from common experiences. Meant to confront habits and states of being, the performance attempts to bring the audience, and performers, face to face with their own humanity. The end result tries to offer hope and humor.

DEVICES

Also Feb. 15-17, an analysis of women's relationships, with themselves and others, is presented by Hi Lyfe and choreographed by Sheneé King. The music of James Brown and movements of the African diaspora are used to motivate and demonstrate urban life within the constraints of performance. The overall goal is to create a basis for interpreting female behavior in a variety of ages.

ICTUS

Written by Barbara Becker and directed by Rose Leininger, the story of this 35 year old woman runs Feb. 22-24. After a stroke while vacationing in Italy, the woman is unable to speak, swallow or move. Her rehabilitation is more than physical as she works to put her life back together when all that defines her is broken.

Compiled by Kelsey DeForest
Information from Cptonline.org



Kelsey DeForest • The Shakerite

THE BIG BOX series performs in the James Levin Theater (right), which evokes a black box theater visually in its design and simplicity and sits above a bookstore. The box office is next door (left).



Su Dong • The Shakerite

"SELF PORTRAIT 5" by Joanna Mitchell is one of five pieces that won Golden Key awards at the Cuyahoga County Regional Scholastic Art Exhibition.

TAKING HOME AWARDS A BRUSHSTROKE AT A TIME

• Joanna Mitchell excels at the 'hard work' of making art

BY COLIN JACKSON
LIMELIGHT EDITOR

Eleven awards, three of which came with a cash prize. Not a bad day for aspiring artist, senior Joanna Mitchell.

Mitchell preformed just short of perfect in the 28th annual Cuyahoga County Regional Scholastic Art Exhibition, a competition held by the Cleveland Institute of Art, an organization that boasts 125 years on the Cleveland art scene.



MITCHELL Mitchell won five Gold Keys, the highest award in the competition, and was the only artist to win so many. Drawings "Laurie" and "Self Portrait 2," painting "Rubba Dub Dub" and Mixed Media pieces "Cycling Keys" and "Self Portrait 5" are responsible for the prestigious awards.

Mitchell cited "Cycling Keys," as one of her favorite pieces of work in the competition

"Cycling Keys" is a multi-media piece that is literally bits and pieces of the world of art.

The piece, which exhibits the entire spectrum of Mitchell's artistic talent, is comprised of sculpture, drawing and even woodwork.

While Mitchell is proud of her performance at the competition, awards do not drive her.

"It feels good to validate my art, but it is not why I do it," Mitchell said. She believes that art is merely a conglomeration of thoughts, adding that deeming one better than the other is wrong.

As excited as Mitchell was for her accomplishments, she said that her success is also reflective of her teacher; Dan Whitely, with whom she has worked for four years.

Whitely, who has been teaching for eight years, credits Mitchell's success to her relentless effort and work ethic. She devotes four periods a day to the betterment of her craft. "Art is not easy," Mitchell explained, "it a perpetual struggle."

Along with her current Scholastic Art awards, Mitchell is also involved in the Young Art program sponsored by the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. This competition will eventually award 20 students the Presidential Scholar Award for the arts.

Whitely has been aware of Mitchell's talent for years. "From the very beginning, she had tremendous potential and skill," Whitely said. "Her open mindedness separated her from other students," he added.

Inspiration isn't a problem for Mitchell. She said she finds it "in everybody around me" by studying the subtle nuances of people, "the way they shake hands, the glint in their eye" she said.

Despite her blossoming talent, Mitchell said that making art is not easy. "It's hard to make it art," she said. She explained that in order for art to make sense to her, she requires a systematic process. "The feeling [of finishing a] difficult piece is simply indescribable."

With a high school career that is already impressive, Mitchell is on track for artistic fame. She plans to continue her art education next year.

"Eventually one student will surpass the teacher, and Joanna may be that student," Whitely said.



Su Dong • The Shakerite

MIXED MEDIA PIECE "Cycling Keys" includes sculpture and drawing.

ENOUGH WITH THE RERUNS

It's Thursday night, 9 p.m. on the dot. I'm ready, remote control in hand. Switching on the TV, I try to contain my mounting excitement. Will a new episode of "The Office" finally air? Or will yet another rerun try to substitute for the glorious possibility of watching Michael Scott bungle yet another attempt to rally the troops at the offices of Dunder Mifflin?

Dwight's fiercely intent face materializes on the screen. Darting into Michael's office, he says, "Question. What would happen in the event of a pencil sharpener catastrophe?" Michael rolls his eyes, and the opening credits play.

It's a rerun. From season three. Not even worth it. WHEN WILL THIS WRITERS' STRIKE END?!



SIMONE
DUVAL

I mean, I can understand how expensive it is to produce a show but really, would it kill the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers to suck it up and give those writers what they want? All they're asking is that the AMPTP grant them what is rightfully theirs, and until then, they will continue their pencils-down policy, indefinitely refusing to write scripts until their needs are met.

What are the demands that have idled the 12,000 or so WGA writers? Well, for starters, a routine pay raise, and an increase in the percentage of residuals -- or extra payments for repeated showings of TV shows and DVD sales -- which a writer is entitled to as payment for their work. And as an extension of the complications that have accompanied the digital age, writers also want to be compensated for online broadcast of episodes that millions of viewers access to catch up on their favorite shows.

Add extended benefits and freedom to respect other entertainment unions' strike efforts, and the WGA would be happy to write about anything, from Dunder Mifflinites trying to get a bat out of the office to staging a company "Survivor Beach Day" to determine the next manager. Oh, if only.

If only the AMPTP would realize they can only air so many ridiculous reality shows before the American public gets so bored with broadcast TV that they just stop watching it.

Why can't we inventive and resourceful Americans come up with our own reality shows? I mean, we did manage to cook up the cotton gin, roller skates, Coca-Cola and the zipper. Yet American broadcasting companies have imported "The Office" and "American Idol" concepts from Britain, and air "Deglassi," a teen drama from Canada. Instead of using spin-offs of other shows, production companies should be trying to come up with new shows, as it is pilot introduction season.

Oh, but wait. . . they don't have any writers to create scripts.

The money the broadcasting industry is spending on renewing and introducing reality shows is wasted; that money should go toward smoothing things over with the WGA. But the AMPTP is too embarrassed to back down for awhile yet; wait until things really start to get hairy, like when all that's on primetime broadcast and cable are infomercials, football games and rotating reruns of "Everybody Loves Raymond."

That's when we'll see the AMPTP coming to the negotiating table, tails between their legs. Tom Cruise's motion picture company, "United Artists," has already begun to feel the squeeze and signed an independent agreement with the WGA Jan. 7. Spyglass Entertainment announced an interim deal with WGA Jan. 16.

So get ready to sharpen those abandoned pencils, Writers' Guild of America. Because the AMPTP can't endure the reality of TV without you.



"Don't you hate when you have a booger and you breathe in and it gets sucked into your face, like it's touching your brain?" 1/9

Teacher: "Where do air fresheners go? Is there a puddle of air freshener?"
Student: "Someone eats it."
Teacher: "Who? The gremlin under the kitchen sink?"
Student: "He has a name..."
1/9



"I miss the freedom of going to school in a place that's not a maximum security prison."
1/11

Security Guard: "C'mon folks, let's go."
Student: "This isn't communist Russia."
Security Guard: "It's turning into it, I'm not going to lie."
1/14

EXTRA TIME, EFFORT EARNS EXTRA POINTS

ADRIA KINNEY
THE BEAT EDITOR

Shaker students will do everything from digging up dirt to giving blood in order to earn coveted extra credit points that can make or break a semester grade or simply offer a chance to have fun.

Juniors Ricky Zucker and Steven London are two examples of students who took on a big extra credit assignment. Zucker and London built a trebuchet, or a giant catapult, for their Project Physics class. Zucker estimates that the trebuchet, which earned him and London about 30 extra credit points, took a total of 15 hours to create. "It was worth it. . . it was fun," Zucker said.

Science teacher William Scanlon said that part of the reason he offers his students extra credit is to reinforce the lessons they learn in class. "The extra credit projects always have something to do with physics...it's using physics in real life. It encourages the topic outside of the class."

Zucker agreed that building the trebuchet helped him learn more about physics. "It gets you doing the stuff so you're actually experiencing it," Zucker said of constructing his project. "I didn't really learn anything new, but it helps you learn [what you've studied in class] better," Zucker said.

In addition to academic assignments, Scanlon also offers extra credit for civility-oriented activities, as students can earn extra points for either giving blood or donating to the food drive.

"The reason I give extra credit for giving blood and for the food drive is because it's the right thing to do. I feel that people should get rewarded for that. . . it's something I want to see them continue doing," Scanlon said.

Advanced Placement physics teacher Joseph Marencik offers his students "Brownie points," which are five extra points for bringing in baked goods. "When I first started teaching AP physics students asked if they could bring brownies or cookies in and I said yes, which led to giving them extra credit for doing it. . . it has produced some very tasty and hunger-satisfying recipes. The five points does not do much for their grade, but it is fun and breaks the extremely fast pace we travel in AP physics," Marencik said.



Simone Duval • The Shakerite

BAKING CAKES, COOKIES and other sweet treats is one way that some students are able to earn extra credit points for class.

Marencik also offers extra credit for supplementary physics problems. "This not only gives them extra credit, but also they will be exposed to more physics problems, which is my ultimate goal," Marencik said.

Senior Meg O'Halloran agrees that extra credit can be a legitimate learning experience. O'Halloran recently collected a dirt sample for her environmental science class as part of an extra credit option. The students who took advantage of the project will analyze the sample in class and submit their results to be used as information for the city of Shaker. "I think that a lot of teachers do try to make the extra credit learning opportunities. . . I think that, generally, teachers avoid it unless it achieves something," O'Halloran said.

Regardless of the potential learning opportunity that

exists, many teachers do not include extra credit as a part of their class policy. "I do have a lot of teachers who do not believe in extra credit. Generally, they are math teachers. What would you do for extra credit in a math class? There's really nothing you can do unless you were looking up something about a mathematician," O'Halloran said.

Principal Michael Griffith feels that extra credit should only be awarded to students who do not have any missing assignments and go above and beyond the requirements from a mandatory assignment.

"Initially, my feeling would be not for necessarily for an extra project, but for someone who surpassed the expectations of an assignment. . . I am not always excited about extra credit, but it's hard to say because there's no hard-and-fast rule."

WHAT'S THE
CRAZIEST THING
YOU'VE EVER DONE
FOR EXTRA CREDIT?



I brought in
hamsters for Mr.
Becker.

Bridget Mearns
sophomore



I cleaned my
teacher's room to
move my grade
up.

Katie Crowley
junior

Shaker's finals cause anxiety, but pay off in college

DIANA JACK
THE BEAT EDITOR

For most students, finals seem like the end of the world, or at least the end of having good grades. Almost everyone feels the stress, from freshmen talking their first exams, to seniors applying to college, to the teachers who have to write and grade finals.

Freshman Carley Burroughs said that she is really stressed out, between trying to balance studying and doing the assigned homework that teachers are piling on.

"It's a lot of stress because you have to remember so much stuff," she said. "I was planning to start tonight [Jan. 8], but I have too much homework, which is a common problem for me."

Students also must decide which subject to study first. This year, social studies and math exams were first Jan. 18, with English and science Jan. 22 and foreign language and make-up testing Jan. 23.

Senior Sam Weir said that he had begun to study for his AP Physics final, the one he was most worried about, as of Jan. 9, but that he hadn't touched any of his other five subjects.

"I study in the order that they come in. . . Usually what happens, is that I'll get tired of studying and by the time I try to study for something like German, I can't make myself do it," Weir said.

The high school Steering Committee, a group comprising department chairmen, guidance staff and administrative personnel, determines the order of finals, which rotates. Teachers of subjects that test on Friday get an extra weekend to grade finals.

Math teacher Lori White said that although it takes 20-plus hours to grade her finals, the schedule doesn't really effect her grading. She said that though it is hard when her subject is the last in the order, everyone encounters the same situation at one time or another. "I like the schedule. You just learn to deal with it," she said.

Shaker's finals, which resemble a college schedule, are rare among high schools. Solon High School's semester finals are each 75 minutes long, and students complete them over two days.

According to Dale Whittington, the district's testing and research evaluation expert, three-hour finals were more common in the past. But, she added, Shaker finals really prepare students for higher learning. "College grads came back and felt that Shaker's system is particularly helpful in preparing them," she said.

But learning to deal with finals can take some work, especially for athletes and seniors applying to college. Junior Peter Heggs, a wrestler, said that his coach, Marc Enie, has allowed for changes in the practice schedule so that his athletes can have more time to

prepare for their finals. "Practice during finals week will be shorter, and we aren't having a match or tournament this Friday or Saturday [Jan. 11, 12]," he said.

Finals also hold implications for those seniors deferred from early choice schools. For them, first semester grades could tip the scales toward acceptance or rejection.

Weir, who was deferred from the University of Pennsylvania, said that he's a little worried about finals because the college requires applicants to send in their first semester grades. Otherwise, since these are his last set of finals, Weir said that he "highly doubts" that he would care about exams.

Whittington said that finals are limited in their effectiveness as assessment tools. "A final isn't going to give you everything you want to know because there are going to be some things not measurable with a test," Whittington said.

So while students may feel like it's the end of their lives during finals week the system will eventually pay off. Lauren Saks '07, who attends Boston University, said that the Shaker's finals really help down the line.

"I know at Shaker people take their education for granted, but Shaker really does prepare you for college," she said.

A final isn't going to give you everything you want to know because there are going to be some things not measurable with a test.

Dale Whittington
Director of Testing and Research Evaluation

PLAYING JV FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME

BY JOSH CURRY
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

Ice-skating is not the most natural endeavor known to mankind. Playing a contact sport while ice-skating further defies nature. For these reasons, ice hockey is not an easy sport to pick up, yet some Shaker students have done just that.

Last year, hockey was an foreign sport to junior Ryan Cristal. This year, he is tied for leading goal scorer on the JV team. Before you dismiss that stat, consider this: Cristal never skated before this year.

Cristal said he started playing hockey because he wanted to do something new. Numerous obstacles faced Cristal in his quest to learn a new sport, the first one being learning how to skate.

“At first, stopping was my biggest challenge.” Cristal said. “I kept on running into stuff or biting it, but once I got it, everything fell into place.”

After he scored in a game during his first season, Cristal was motivated to continue his hockey career and came back to score two goals in the first two games of his second season.

Just as Cristal did last season, multiple players with no hockey background experience have joined the Shaker program this year, including senior Sam Keane, junior Eric Bokar, and freshman Cecilia Mercer, the only girl on the team. Each cited a different reason for joining the team.

“I just wanted to try it,” Keane said. “Anyway, I needed an independent study to graduate because I didn’t want to take gym.” Keane further stated that although the JV team has yet to win a game, playing hockey has been.

The novice players have not burdened the JV squad. “At the beginning of the season I thought they sucked, but they have improved a lot,” said senior captain Max Celeste. “They not only add some skill but also an incredible amount of team chemistry.”

According to Cristal, Coach John Case is supportive of every

SKATING WITH THE BOYS

BY PATRICK POHLMAN
STAFF REPORTER

Freshman forward Cecelia Mercer isn’t letting some opponents’ crude comments stop her from playing hockey. The only female member of the junior varsity hockey team, Mercer said she does not feel like an outsider and that she feels part of the team. She also said, though, that her teammates often refrain from checking her in practice. “The nicest thing a teammate has said is, ‘You’ve improved a lot since you started,’” said Mercer, who goes to the first aid room instead of the locker room to change before practice. Mercer said that opponents treat her differently, however. They often ridicule her by taunting, “Girls can’t play hockey” and knocking her down. She occasionally hears comments such as “Shut up, bitch.” Mercer said her parents don’t like the idea of her playing hockey, but they try to attend all the games and support her in her efforts. “I’ve been surrounded my whole life,” she said. “My cousins play hockey, and I always wanted to, but didn’t have the guts to ask my parents.” Her parents did offer her some advice: “Be rough but be safe.” Mercer tries to hit opponents, “but usually it doesn’t work out,” she said. The former figure skater attributes her limited playing time to her status as a first-year player, not her sex. She plays about two minutes per game. Nevertheless, she said, “I feel dedicated to the team.”

JV hockey were shocked at the news. “I was bumming,” Cristal said.

“Once word got out that there wasn’t going to be a team, kids that wanted to play seemed to come out of the woodwork,” said Athletic Director Don Readance.

It soon became obvious that there were enough interested players to form a team.

“Luckily other teams hadn’t rescheduled and we were able to salvage the JV schedule,” Readance said.

The lack of JV players at tryouts is due to the very nature of the team. It is far from a varsity development program. Rather, the crew comprises a diverse group of students who have played on and off for numerous years, and more than a couple of first- and second-year players.

“I knew I would be on the JV squad, so I just didn’t show up to varsity tryouts,” Cristal said. The story is the same for others as well. “It didn’t make sense for me to go because I knew I sucked,” Bokar said.

player. “He knows we are s---heads so he doesn’t get angry when people suck, like when Eric Bokar falls three times within one skating drill.” Cristal said. “He just keeps his cool and has been doing a good job with us.”

Case finds virtue in the relative inexperience of the team.

“It’s a good team with a lot of heart. They work hard and are incredibly responsive to drills,” Case said. “They work hard and everybody helps each other out.”

A JV hockey team was not a certainty when the season approached. At the initial varsity tryouts, turnout was low.

After head varsity coach Mike Bartley chose his squad, there were not enough remaining players to form a full JV team. Bartley then decided to drop the JV program due to lack of participation.

Players who had expected to play



Su Dong • The Shakerite

SENIOR JARED WISE looks on as junior Ryan Cristal battles a St. Ignatius player for the puck. Shaker lost the game 11-1 Jan. 11.

Even Celeste, one of three JV captains, who has been playing intermittently since seventh grade, didn’t consider playing varsity during his senior year.

“I play hockey to have fun and I didn’t want to commit myself to practicing every day after school. I’d rather practice three days a week and have one good game a week,” Celeste said.

Browne headed south; Super Bowl XLII predictions

BROWNE COMMITS TO SOUTHERN



Browne

Browne commits to Southern: Senior left tackle Chris Browne verbally committed to Southern University (Baton Rouge, Louisiana) to play football for head coach **Pete Richardson**. “They had been recruiting me since the middle of the football season,” Browne said. He also points to Southern’s tradition as another major reason for committing to the school. The Southern and Grambling University game is one of the nation’s oldest rivalry contests and is telecast on NBC each year. Browne, an all-district and all-LEL selection, hopes to start in his freshman year. “They said I’ll be competing for the starting job. . . that was another reason why I picked Southern, to compete for the left tackle job my freshman year.”

NOT SO PROUDLY WE HAILED

Before the Jan. 18 men’s basketball game against Mentor, silence ensued when it was time for the national anthem. After a few moments of waiting for the music to begin, public address announcer **Bryant Kizer** tried to move on to player introductions, but just as he began to identify the Cardinals, the Star Spangled Banner emerged from the sound system. This was nonetheless an improvement over the Dec. 29 game against West Geauga, when there was no music whatsoever. If students eating in the hallways reflect poorly on Shaker’s image, than what does our inability to play the national anthem say about us?

SUPER BOWL XLII PREDICTIONS

Mike: New England 35, Giants 27

Teddy: New England 31, Giants 6

Josh: New England 28, Giants 10



TEDDY
CAHILL



JOSH
CURRY



MIKE
YOUNG

SUPER BOWL XLII BREAKDOWN

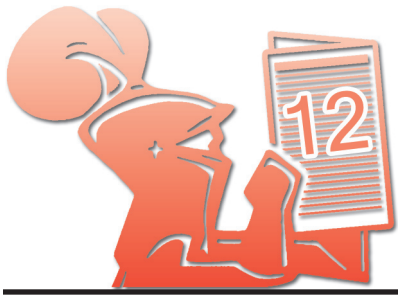
This year’s Super Bowl will be a rematch of an exciting conclusion to the New England Patriots’ undefeated regular season, a 38-35 victory over the New York Giants. This time, however, the Giants are riding a wave of momentum, which began with that “moral victory” over the Patriots. **Eli Manning**, who has yet to throw an interception this post-season, is finally playing more like his older brother, **Peyton**, and less like his oldest brother, **Cooper**. (yes, there’s a third Manning brother and, no, he never played in the NFL). The Giants should be able to put up some points against a Patriots team that has given up 661 total yards of offense in their two playoff games (yet, unlike the Chargers, the Giants’ running backs are healthy and quite adept at punching the ball into the end zone when approach the goal line). But can the Giants stop the most prolific scoring offense in the history of the NFL?

The biggest question facing the Giants, who led the NFL in sacks, is whether they can get pressure Patriots quarterback **Tom Brady**. They can’t play conservatively on defense like the Jaguars did and expect the Patriots not to pick them apart. Brady threw for 356 yards and two touchdowns in the teams’ last game, as the Giants accumulated only one sack. If the Giants can’t achieve pressure with their front four, there’s no way the banged-up Giants’ defensive backs can win the one-on-one battles with Patriots’ **Randy Moss** and **Wes Welker**, who combined for 17 catches, 222 yards and two touchdowns in their last meeting.

WELCOME TO THE “PROG?”

When the announcement came that Jacobs Field would be renamed “Progressive Field,” the backlash from traditionalist fans was intense. Cleveland had yet to see a real corporate takeover until this point. Quicken Loans Arena may have a corporate sponsor but **Dan Gilbert**, the Cavaliers owner, is the chairman of Quicken Loans. He bought the naming rights to the arena formerly known as Gund Arena. It’s unusual for a city that calls itself home to at least three sports teams to have the rights sold to only one stadium. The only city that can now boast this is New York, ironically the capital of commercialism and advertising, but devoid of naming rights.





READANCE PASSES CAREER MILESTONE

Women's basketball coach Don Readance won his 100th game with the Raiders' 58-34 defeat of Shaw Jan. 9. Readance started his head-coaching career at Cleveland Heights and is now in his fourth season at Shaker. His Shaker teams have compiled a record of 55-28. "I've been privileged to have some good teams to coach," Readance said. "It's nice that people recognized that, though." Last season Readance was recognized as Coach of the Year in the state of Ohio after leading the Raiders the regional semifinals.

Raider Zone

01.29.08



Infographic by John A. Fletcher • The Shakerite

1991 field hockey

Shaker's field hockey team has a rich history of reaching the state title game, but coming out on the losing end. Three times the Raiders have lost state championship games (1979, 1987, 1992 and 2003), but in 1991 Shaker emerged as the top team in Ohio.

Led by leading scorer Laura Melograno and future member of the US National Team Ashley McWilliams, Shaker defeated Hudson 2-0 in the championship game in Dublin, Ohio. The Raiders also avenged the 1987 championship game loss to Columbus School for Girls, beating the Unicorns 3-2 in overtime on senior co-captain Jennifer Hughes' penalty shot.

Head coach Linda Bently was determined that 1991 would be the year that Shaker would win the championship.

"I was going to the state tournament with or without them," Bently said in a 1991 interview with The Shakerite. "It's a wonderful feeling to come back and win it all."

Shaker finished the season with a 9-4-2 record in the regular season.

•Raider Zone spotlights five of Shaker's state titles

2003 women's lacrosse

While women's lacrosse has only been a sport at Shaker for 15 years the team has already captured two state championships (2001 and 2003). The 2003 team truly dominated throughout the year compiling a 14-1 regular season record and winning their league championship in addition to their state title.

Led by two-time All-American Ashley Wood and the North Region Defensive Player of the Year, the Raiders rolled through the playoffs, ultimately defeating Upper Arlington 12-4 in the state championship game. Wood, then a junior, scored five goals in the game, adding to her four goals in Shaker's 10-5 semifinal victory over Hudson.

During the playoffs the top-seeded Raiders only played one close game, defeating Hathaway Brown 9-8 in the quarterfinals after knocking out Magnificat and Wooster from the tournament 15-1 and 17-3, respectively.



Courtesy of The Gristmill

TWO-TIME ALL-American Ashley Wood streaks past a Magnificat defender during the 2003 state championship season.

2001 hockey

It was only a short time ago when a rebuilding year for Shaker hockey still made them contenders for a state title. The 2001 team, which appeared mired in a rebuilding stage, was overlooked in the preseason yet went on to snare a Baron Cup and a state title.

"[2001] was the biggest highlight for me as a coach," head coach Mike Bartley said. "They were a team that wasn't expected to do much, but they put a string together at the end of the year."

The team struggled early after losing twice Padua. These losses were offset by four triumphs over University School.

Shaker got hot at the end of the season with the return of senior captain Carson Strang and defeated US in the Baron Cup. They then avenged their early losses, defeating Padua in the state championship.



Courtesy of The Gristmill

JUNIOR MIKE KOCH holds his ground on defense during the state finals in Columbus.

1965 baseball

The 1965 Raider baseball team captured the team's first state championship after sweeping through eight tournament games. The team also won its third straight Lake Erie League title, becoming the first Shaker team to win both crowns in the same year.

Led by Cleveland's Coach of the Year, Fred Heinlen, and four All-Scholastic players, the team amassed a 24-6 record. One of the All-Scholastic players, Rick Krumlauf, led the Raiders with a .363 batting average and was named to the all-Ohio team. Krumlauf was drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers in the first MLB draft that June. The team's southpaw ace Marty Liff led the state in win-loss record (12-1) and ERA, compiling a 0.51 mark.

In the regional finals, Liff sent the team to the final four with an RBI single in the bottom of the seventh inning to defeat North Canton 1-0.

In Columbus, Shaker easily rolled over Rossford 11-2 with Krumlauf's 380-foot homerun leading the way. Liff pitched back-to-back days, throwing a 4-0 shutout against Steubenville Central Catholic.



Courtesy of The Gristmill

SENIOR THIRD BASEMAN Rick Krumlauf starts his swing during his all-Ohio campaign that led Shaker to the 1965 state championship.



SHAKER'S FIRST STATE championship came just eight years after the school opened in 1918. The 1926 men's track team went undefeated, despite returning only two letterman from the 1925 team.

Courtesy of The Gristmill

1926 men's track

While their times may not match with today's faster athletes, the 1926 Shaker men's track state title squad is among the greatest teams to ever compete for Shaker. Head coach Gerald Ensign, also football and basketball coach, led his team to an undefeated season with first place finishes in the a triangular meet with University School and Cleveland Heights, Lakewood Relays, Northeastern Ohio Trials, state meet and the Greater Cleveland Conference meet.

Don Kelly, competing in the quarter-mile, broad jump, high jump and mile relay, earned at least one first place finish in each of the five meets. Kelly was also a part of the state champion quarter-mile relay team (equivalent to the 4x400 meter relay), which set a team record of 3:41. Among the other record setters is senior Paul Roth, who set record times in successive meets in the high hurdles.